

## Atlanta ~ Green City Initiatives

### **Sustainable Development**

#### **Green Building / Sustainable Development**

- In 2003, the City of Atlanta passed an ordinance requiring all new and major renovated city financed construction projects (over 5,000 square feet or over \$2 million in cost) will at a minimum incorporate sustainable design criterion and the design and project management teams are required to meet LEED™ Silver-certified level. To responsibly build Atlanta's growth and promote sustainable development, Mayor Franklin and the City of Atlanta are committed to leading by example. By enacting this ordinance, the City of Atlanta will incorporate sustainable building design and construction practices into city financed projects and promote consistent application of sustainable green building practices.

Atlanta leads the country in LEED™ Certified buildings in the US with a total of 53 projects that are either already certified or underway. More than 3 million sq. ft. of LEED™ Certified buildings have already been built. In addition, more than 3,000 EarthCraft Houses have been built.

- ◆ Emory University has approximately 10 projects submitted for LEED™ certification (5 have already been awarded Certification) for a total of 1.1 million square feet - or 25 acres of green buildings on campus.
- ◆ Interface Corporation, a worldwide leader in modular soft-surfaced floorcoverings, is the first recipient of a LEED™-CI Platinum rating for their Atlanta Showroom.
- ◆ The Arthur M. Blank Family Office, home to the Arthur M. Blank Foundation, was Georgia's first LEED™ Gold-certified building and the Southeast's region's first Gold-certified office building.
- ◆ The 1180 Peachtree Street building in Midtown, completed in 2006, a major new structure that is a LEED Gold certified building
- ◆ Atlantic Station, a recently built live-work-play community was previously the site of Georgia's first steel mill that sat on a 138-acre site. Totalling an estimated \$2 billion in new construction it is the largest brownfield redevelopment project in the U.S. The community was designed to improve the area's water resources and regional air quality and to serve as a model for environmental sustainability and smart growth. This project was created by Atlanta-based Jacoby Development, Inc. in a joint venture with AIG Global Real Estate Corp. Atlantic Station won Phoenix Award in EPA's Region 4 and later the National Grand Prize Phoenix Award. In July 2005, the 171 17th Street building, a 500-thousand-square-foot office tower located in the Atlantic Station redevelopment, was the first LEED™ Silver-Core & Shell high-rise office building in the world.
- ◆ Glenwood Park, a Green Street Properties mixed-use project, was built on the site of a former concrete manufacturing facility. All of the homes in this community are certified under the EarthCraft House program, and the development features a Department of Energy Building America research and demonstration home that is open to the public.
- ◆ Hedgewood Properties was chosen 2003 Builder of the Year by Professional Builder Magazine. Hedgewood was chosen for its niche-based smart growth strategy and market leadership in design, energy efficiency and green building. In January 2000, Hedgewood became the first builder to commit to building all its homes to the EarthCraft standard.
- ◆ Atlanta is home to 81 US Green Building Council (USGBC) member companies and organizations, as well as nearly 900 LEED™ Accredited Professionals, ensuring that the number of green buildings in Atlanta will continue to increase in the coming years.

#### **Supporting Organizations**

- **Southface Energy Institute:** [www.southface.org](http://www.southface.org)  
Southface promotes sustainable homes, workplaces and communities through education, research, advocacy and technical assistance. In 1998, Southface teamed with The Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association (HBA) to create a template for green building programs for HBA's across the country. The result was EarthCraft House, a voluntary green building program that serves as a blueprint for healthy, comfortable homes that reduce utility bills and protect the environment.
- **U.S. Green Building Coalition (USGBC):** <http://chapters.usgbc.org/atlanta>  
USGBC Chapters provide local green building resources, education and leadership opportunities. Each local chapter provides an opportunity to meet green building experts, develop local green building strategies, tour green building projects and more.

## Atlanta ~ Green City Initiatives

### Planning and Land-use

- **Atlanta's BeltLine: Atlanta's New Public Realm:** [www.atlantada.com/adalInitiatives/beltline.jsp](http://www.atlantada.com/adalInitiatives/beltline.jsp)  
The BeltLine Project is based on a 25-year vision that will transform the urban core of the City by managing future growth and creating sustainable communities. Ideally located approximately 1 to 3 miles from downtown, the BeltLine will convert 22 miles of underutilized or abandoned railroad corridors and more than 2,900 acres of underutilized residential, commercial, and industrial land into a continuous system of transit and greenways. Parks and pedestrian-friendly mixed use development nodes along the BeltLine will offer a vibrant street life and quality of life improvements interconnecting the BeltLine's 45 adjacent neighborhoods. Essential to the concept is that the three key elements – transit, greenspace and development – are interrelated and that the proposed transit network connects seamlessly with MARTA (the public transit system) and other transit opportunities, as well as adjacent neighborhoods.
- **Livable Centers Initiative:** [http://www.atlantaregional.com/cps/rde/xchg/SID-3F57FEE7-C40E10DC/arc/hs.xsl/308\\_ENU\\_HTML.htm](http://www.atlantaregional.com/cps/rde/xchg/SID-3F57FEE7-C40E10DC/arc/hs.xsl/308_ENU_HTML.htm)  
The **Livable Centers Initiative (LCI)** is a program offered by the Atlanta Regional Commission that encourages local jurisdictions to plan and implement strategies that link transportation improvements with land use development strategies to create sustainable, livable communities consistent with regional development policies. There are currently 12 LCI's in the City of Atlanta, 8 of which are managed by the City.
- **Brownfield Programs:** [www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/brownfields.aspx](http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/brownfields.aspx)  
The largest urban brownfield redevelopment in the US can be found in Atlanta. Atlantic Station is a true success story. The site was previously held a steel mill. Now, it is a 138-acre mixed-use development.
- **Quality of Life Bond Program:** [www.atlantaga.gov/dpw\\_gol\\_main.aspx](http://www.atlantaga.gov/dpw_gol_main.aspx)  
This program provided \$150 million in bonds to create a diversified city where people across the spectrum of age, income, ethnicity, and culture can live, work, play, and learn. The projects covered by this bond program include:
  - Sidewalks (Sidewalk construction, intersection improvements, streetscape improvements)
  - Public Plazas and Greenspace (greenspace enhancements, livable community centers)
  - Public Streets, Bridges, and Viaducts (bicycle signage & markings, bridge improvements, street resurfacing,
  - Public Traffic Control Devices (crosswalks, traffic control devices, traffic Ssignals & communications)

### Supporting Organizations

- **Livable Communities Coalition:** [www.livablecommunitiescoalition.org](http://www.livablecommunitiescoalition.org)  
Advocates for four principles: Support greater densities and mixed use developments; integrate transportation investments with appropriate land use; increase housing choices; and guide how "Greenfield" land is developed.
- **Atlanta Housing Authority:** [www.atlantahousing.org](http://www.atlantahousing.org)  
Atlanta Housing Authority is the largest housing authority in Georgia and one of the largest in the U.S. helping to develop, acquire, lease and operate affordable housing for low-income families. In Atlanta, their efforts have resulted in six vibrant mixed-income communities, with three more in the predevelopment phase. AHA also believes that "environment matters" and that an environment is shaped by both the quality of the housing product and the conduct of its residents.
- **Trust For Public Land (TPL):** [www.TPL.org](http://www.TPL.org)  
For many years, the Trust for Public Land, a national non-profit land conservation organization, has worked hard to conserve land in and around Atlanta. In working with other conservation organizations, they have helped to preserve close to 70 miles of river frontage along the Chattahoochee River, protected land for the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, and recently worked with the City of Atlanta to expand parkland in Southeast Atlanta.

## Atlanta ~ Green City Initiatives

### **Green Space and Atlanta's Tree Canopy**

- **City of Atlanta Tree Ordinance:** [www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/newarborist012706.aspx](http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/newarborist012706.aspx)  
It is the policy of the city that there will be no net loss of trees within the boundaries of the city. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish the standards necessary to assure that this policy will be realized and that the city will continue to enjoy the benefits provided by its urban forest. The provisions of this ordinance include, in part,
  - ◆ Establish and maintain the maximum amount of tree cover on public and private lands in the City.
  - ◆ Provide for the designation of historic and specimen trees.
  - ◆ Promote efficient and cost-effective management of the urban forest through the development of a comprehensive long-range urban forest master plan.
- **2005 Greenspace and Recreation Opportunity Bond:** <http://www.atlantaga.gov/Government/Parks.aspx>  
In December 2005 the City passed legislation authorizing expenditure of \$105 million dollars. To date, \$76.4 million in parks improvements bonds have been issued. The purpose of these bonds is to enhance city-wide renovation projects to parks and recreation centers and to assist with the acquisition of greenspace throughout the city.

### **Supporting Organizations**

- **Park Pride:** [www.parkpride.org](http://www.parkpride.org)  
A non-profit organization that leads and inspires action for parks and greenspace. In 2005, Park Pride developed conceptual Visioning Plans for three City of Atlanta parks, organized a dozen "friends of park" groups, successfully advocated for \$105 million in park improvement bonds and a \$2.6 million increase in the annual parks budget. In addition, Park Pride volunteers spent more than 23,000 hours cleaning and maintaining parks.
- **Trees Atlanta:** [www.treesatlanta.org](http://www.treesatlanta.org)  
Trees Atlanta is a non-profit citizens' group, dedicated to protecting and improving our urban environment by planting and conserving trees. Trees Atlanta provides for tree planting and tree care along major corridors and in business districts of the City through the Tree Trust Fund at no cost to Atlanta taxpayers. Atlanta is Tree-mendous!™

### **Transit**

- **BeltLine Greenspace/Transit Corridor:** [www.beltlinecommunity.com](http://www.beltlinecommunity.com)  
The BeltLine is a 22-mile loop of existing railroad right-of-way that will be transformed into a transit and greenspace corridor. The corridor will connect 45 in-town neighborhoods with new and existing parks, transit and trails for commuters, bicyclists and pedestrians.
- **Proposed Atlanta's Peachtree Streetcar:** [www.atlantastreetcar.com/index.cfm](http://www.atlantastreetcar.com/index.cfm)  
This transit proposal is a streetcar line that will run along the 14-mile length of the famous Peachtree Corridor. By providing a distribution system and connecting it to existing and proposed mass transit infrastructure, the Streetcar will allow residents, conventioners and tourists, office workers and suburban commuters to access a number of destinations throughout the Peachtree corridor without using a personal automobile.
- **Lovejoy to Atlanta Rail Line:** [www.garail.com](http://www.garail.com)  
This proposed project consists of 26 miles of rehabilitated tracks to 60 miles per hour standards between Atlanta and Lovejoy, Ga. by way of East Point, Forest Park, Morrow, and Jonesboro. Station platforms with park and ride lots would be provided if the project goes forward. At maturity more than 3,080 trips per day will be made for an annual count of 770,000 trips, eliminating 800,000 hours of highway delay for drivers stuck in traffic. Annually, 21 million fewer vehicle miles would be driven.

## Atlanta ~ Green City Initiatives

### Supporting Organizations

- **Transit Planning Board:** [www.tpb.ga.gov](http://www.tpb.ga.gov)

The Transit Planning Board (TPB) was established as a partnership between the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA). Its primary mission is to “establish and maintain a seamless, integrated transit network for the Atlanta region.” The TPB aims to create a regional transit plan and to identify new regional funding sources to implement and operate the system. Short term the TPB will also function as a forum for coordination of transit services. The TPB is led by an 18-member board of directors representing the Metropolitan Atlanta Region. Mayor Shirley Franklin serves on the TPB’s Executive Committee.

- **Atlanta BeltLine Inc.**

Together with the City of Atlanta, Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. will directly manage a number of key implementation activities, including land acquisition; expenditures of \$1.7 billion in Tax Allocation District funds, as well as additional federal funding support; overseeing transit engineering, design and construction; and promoting affordable housing opportunities.

In an Inner Core Feasibility Study, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) concluded that the BeltLine is a viable transit project for the city to consider. The BeltLine’s 22-mile loop of railroad right-of-way could connect to existing and proposed transit networks, linking patrons to major activity centers and attractions. MARTA’s Alternatives Analysis Study is currently in progress to determine optimal transit modes and routes.

With systems of multi-use trails and transit , as well as other transportation infrastructure investments, the BeltLine will connect neighborhoods, activity centers and attractions. People living near any portion of the BeltLine will have easy access to other venues along the corridor, as well as access to MARTA rail stations.

Funding for the BeltLine is already underway. The federal government has allocated \$18 million for use in right-of-way acquisition and trail construction. In addition, the Atlanta Regional Commission’s long-range plan calls for approximately \$300 million in transit funding for right of way acquisition and trails and transit development.

The BeltLine will create more than 33 miles of multi-use trails in a linear park that will connect 40 Atlanta parks. The multi-use trails include the core 22-mile loop plus various extensions to increase connectivity to parks and trails surrounding the BeltLine.

- **The BeltLine Partnership:** [www.beltline.org](http://www.beltline.org)

The Beltline Partnership is a non-profit organization formed to champion the BeltLine. Prior to the formation of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc., the Partnership took the lead in gathering support for the BeltLine project and its creation. Now it will focus primarily on raising private funds to help support the public investment in the project.

- **PATH Foundation:** [www.pathfoundation.org/trails/atidek.cfm](http://www.pathfoundation.org/trails/atidek.cfm)

PATH Foundation’s mission is to develop a system of interlinking greenway trails through metro Atlanta for both commuter and recreational trips. Several accomplishments include:

- ♦ The Silver Comet Trail connects Atlanta to the Alabama state line. Currently, 48 of the planned 60 miles of the trail are now complete, and the Chief Ladiga Trail is being constructed in Alabama to meet the Silver Comet at the state line.
- ♦ The Atlanta/DeKalb trail system includes the Freedom Park Trail, Chastain Park Jogging Trail, Westside, and Lionel Hampton Trails in the City of Atlanta; and the Stone Mountain, South Decatur Trolley, and Arabia Mountain Trails in neighboring DeKalb County.

- **PEDS:** [www.peds.org](http://www.peds.org)

PEDS is a member-based advocacy organization dedicated to making metro Atlanta safe and accessible for all pedestrians. One of PEDS’ goals is to ensure the design of pedestrian-oriented communities.

### Energy Conservation in Buildings

- **Mayor Franklin hosted the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Energy / Environment Summit on Buildings**

Mayors from around the U.S. participated in a summit held in Atlanta on October 26 – 27, 2006 to find out more about the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) and the American Institute of Architects agreement to be carbon-neutral by 2030 by focusing on green building design including homes, schools, offices, and municipal buildings.

The U.S. Building Sector has been shown to be the major consumer of fossil fuel and producer of global warming using 48% of the energy, almost half of all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions annually, versus 27% Transportation and 25% Industry.

Atlanta leads the country in green buildings. More than 53 projects either completed or in progress are LEED™ certified buildings. In addition, more than 3,000 EarthCraft Houses have been built.

- **Rebuild Atlanta Grant:** [www.eere.energy.gov/state\\_energy\\_program/project\\_detail.cfm/sp\\_id=836](http://www.eere.energy.gov/state_energy_program/project_detail.cfm/sp_id=836)

U.S. Department of Energy, Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA), Southface, and the City of Atlanta partnered in the Rebuild Atlanta Partnership program. The Rebuild Atlanta Partnership helped facility managers establish and maintain effective communications between departments; educated facility managers on energy-saving preventative maintenance techniques, and developed best practice guidelines; and helped facility managers analyze and implement energy-saving capital projects.

The Rebuild Atlanta Partnership conducted a review of Atlanta's ongoing energy savings performance contract and worked with facility managers to create a monitoring system to verify the guaranteed savings. It created a utility management system that incorporates specialized software to monitor Atlanta's 700+ electricity accounts to provide benchmarks for performance; alert facility managers to potential energy waste, and publicize the city's efforts. It also engaged new resources to examine energy conservation opportunities for water and wastewater facilities; outdoor lighting; and natural gas use.

### *Supporting Organizations*

- **The Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority:** [www.state.ga.us/gefa](http://www.state.ga.us/gefa)

The mission of the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority Division of Energy Resources is to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy assistance programs that improve environmental quality, strengthen quality of life and stimulate sustainable economic development in Georgia. GEFA achieves these goals by administering proven programs, providing critical energy information resources and promoting cost effective energy solutions for public and private entities.

### Local Food

- **Georgia Organics:** [www.georgiaorganics.org](http://www.georgiaorganics.org)

Georgia Organics promotes organic local food initiatives and guides individuals to farms, markets, restaurants, grocers, and other retailers committed to sustainable food and farms. Metro Atlanta is home to: 11 Farmers' Markets, 12 Farms, 15 Grocers and 18 Restaurants that serve locally grown organic foods. To name a few:

- ◆ **Local Organic Farmers Markets Including:** Morningside Organic Farmers Market, Green Market at Piedmont Park, and Decatur Farmer's Market
- ◆ **Local Organic Grocers Including:** Rainbow Natural Foods, Return to Eden, Sevananda Natural Foods Markets, and Whole Foods Markets
- ◆ **Local Organic Farms Including:** Atlanta Community Food Bank, Gaia Gardens, Whippoorwill Hollow Organic Farm, and Serenbe Farms
- ◆ **Local Restaurants Including:** Alon's Bakery, Floataway Café, Blue-Eyed Daisy, Belly General Store, Rathbun's, Highland Bakery, R. Thomas Deluxe Grill, Watershed, and Woodfire Grill



## Atlanta ~ Green City Initiatives

- **Atlanta Community Gardens Coalition:** [www.atlantacommunitygardens.org](http://www.atlantacommunitygardens.org)  
The Atlanta Community Gardens Coalition is a non-profit coalition of community gardens in the metro Atlanta area that serves 150 independent community gardens in metro Atlanta with a mission to build a coalition with diverse members committed to supporting community gardens in Atlanta, to the development of an emerging local food system, and to incorporate greenspace use into urban lifestyles for increased quality of life.

### Resource Recovery, Recycling and Waste Reduction

- **The Department of Public Works of the City of Atlanta:** [www.atlantaga.gov/government/publicworks.aspx?section=PublicWorks](http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/publicworks.aspx?section=PublicWorks)  
DPW currently provides weekly, residential curbside collection of recyclable materials from approximately 93,000 single-family residents. The items currently accepted for recycling are newspaper, office paper, mixed paper, junk mail, aluminum and metal cans, glass, plastic, phone books, and boxboard. More than 6 thousand tons of paper, plastic and aluminum, more than 20 thousand tons of yard trimmings and more than 70 thousand tons of water and wastewater treatment plant sludge is recycled each year.
- The City currently offers a drop-off center for "E-Waste" recycling accepting cell phones, computers, monitors, electronics, televisions, and stereos. Fluorescent light tubes are also accepted for recycling.
- **The Atlanta Workforce Development Agency:** [www.atlantaga.gov/government/boards/atl\\_workforcedev.aspx](http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/boards/atl_workforcedev.aspx)  
The Atlanta Workforce Development Agency supports the City of Atlanta's employee recycling program by providing out of school youth in a training program designed to teach youth essential skills while responsible for the collection of mixed-office paper at City Hall and other City buildings.

### Supporting Organizations

- **Keep Atlanta Beautiful (KAtIB):** [www.keeptatlantabeautiful.org/default.asp](http://www.keeptatlantabeautiful.org/default.asp)  
KAtIB serves the citizens of Atlanta by developing and implementing effective public education and community improvement programs which enhance the quality of life and economic development of the community by instilling pride and positive attitude and behavior change regarding natural resource conservation, littering, recycling and beautification.
- **P2AD, Pollution Prevention Assistance Division:** [www.P2AD.org](http://www.P2AD.org)  
P2AD provides free, non-regulatory and confidential technical assistance in the areas of pollution prevention, resource conservation, waste reduction, by-product reuse, and recycling. The P2AD Partnership Program provides a systematic path to sustainability by integrating technical assistance, networking, mentoring, recognition and regulatory incentives to achieve superior environmental performance from its partners.
- **Atlanta Recycles:** [NancyBevens@atlrecycles.org](mailto:NancyBevens@atlrecycles.org)  
The mission of ATLanta Recycles is to promote Atlanta as a national leader in environmentally responsible living by fostering a culture of sustainable practices through resource conservation, recovery and recycling. ATLanta Recycles is partnership of governmental, corporate, and non-profit agencies all working together to achieve success.
- **Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC):** [www.georgiarecycles.org](http://www.georgiarecycles.org)  
The Georgia Recycling Coalition's mission is to complement and coordinate activities relative to recycling, to foster communications among professionals, organizations, government agencies and individuals, and to promote and enhance reduction and recycling programs throughout the state.

### Clean Water and Water Conservation

- **Clean Water Atlanta:** [www.cleanwateratlanta.org](http://www.cleanwateratlanta.org)

Clean Water Atlanta is the City's comprehensive, long-term plan to ensure clean drinking water for Atlanta, and clean streams and clean wastewater flows for Atlanta and its downstream neighbors. The objective of Clean Water Atlanta is to create the cleanest urban streams and rivers in the country within a decade.

The \$3.9 billion Clean Water Atlanta program is progressing steadily, with major capital improvements in our water and sewer systems underway. At the end of 2005, we celebrated the completion and start-up of the Nancy Creek Tunnel and Pumping Station. We've begun to replace 110,000 feet of water pipes and recondition over 48,000 feet of sewer lines in the Virginia-Highland area, and continued with the design of five transmission main and pump station improvement projects.

- **Long Term Water Quality Monitoring**

The City of Atlanta has teamed with the U.S. Geological Survey to install and maintain a state of the art, real-time hydrological monitoring network. There are currently 11 stations on line that generate water quality indicators. The data generated by the monitoring stations is supplemented by an intensive stream sampling program.

- **Infrastructure Stabilization using Stream Bank Bioremediation**

The City of Atlanta recently launched a program to restore streambanks using natural materials and vegetation to support the stabilization of streambanks around water and sewer infrastructure.

- **Watershed Protection Plan**

The City of Atlanta is preparing a Watershed Protection Plan to help maintain and improve water quality conditions throughout watersheds within its jurisdiction. The Plan is being developed in three phases. The *Water Quality Monitoring Plan* will describe the field study necessary to document current water quality and identify environmental stressors. The *Watershed Assessment* will take these data and determine the current conditions of the watershed and address the effects of growth and development. Based on information obtained in the Watershed Assessment, the *Watershed Protection Plan* will describe watershed protection strategies—including specific actions and schedules—that will be used to protect water quality.

- **City of Atlanta, City Hall Greenroof**

The City of Atlanta staff designed and managed construction of a 3,300 square foot greenroof in December 2003. A greenroof is a rooftop garden designed to retain storm water runoff, cool the building, lower energy costs, mitigate the urban heat island effect, create usable space, beautify the built environment, create habitat, and extend the life of traditional roofing systems. The City's greenroof was the "first governmental greenroof in the Southeast". To date it has been featured, shown or referenced in numerous publications including: USA Today, The New York TIMES, MSNBC, The Southface Journal, Natural Health Magazine, Environmental Design +Construction, The LA Letter, Atlanta Home Improvement Magazine and the Atlanta Journal/Constitution Newspaper.

- **City of Atlanta Greenway Acquisition**

In conjunction with the entry of the Consent Decrees, the City of Atlanta agreed to a supplemental environmental project that included the acquisition of streambanks to protect water quality. The Department of Watershed Management has completed the acquisition of 1800 acres of streambanks that protect over 25 miles of streams in the metropolitan Atlanta area.

### Supporting Organizations

- **Clean Water Campaign:** [www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com)

The Clean Water Campaign (CWC) is a collaborative public education initiative that brings together local, state, and federal government agencies, environmental and community groups and corporate partners who all share the common vision of protecting water quality in metro Atlanta.

### Clean Air and Climate Protection

- **US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement:** [www.cityofseattle.net/mayor/climate](http://www.cityofseattle.net/mayor/climate)  
In May of 2005, Mayor Shirley Franklin signed the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. As of June 1, 2006, 238 mayors from across the country have signed onto the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. They represent about 45.5 million people in 41 states, plus the District of Columbia. The agreement is to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the Kyoto target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012.
- **City of Atlanta Ordinance ~ Reduced vehicle idling where appropriate**  
In 2002, the City passed an Ordinance to prohibit a truck or bus from idling for more than 15 minutes. This ordinance was designed to promote the right of the people to clean air, pure water, freedom from excessive and unnecessary noise, and the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic qualities of the environment.
- **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (HJAIA):** [www.atlanta-airport.com](http://www.atlanta-airport.com)  
Hartsfield-Jackson bears the proud distinction of being "the world's busiest passenger airport". Because HJAIA is the busiest airport in the world we are committed to protecting our air quality. HJAIA's clean air initiatives include:
  - Encourages Airlines to use single engine taxiing when possible.
  - Promoted efforts for tenants to convert their Ground Support Equipment (GSE) such as ramp loaders, luggage carts, fueling carts, etc. fleets to electric equipment and their vehicle fleet to some form of AFV.
  - Partnered with Delta Air Lines and MARTA to operate a Delta remote baggage check-in for passengers at the MARTA Airport Station. This induces passengers to take public transit to the airport.
  - Commissioned Runway 10-28 in May 2006 which greatly reduces delays experienced by arriving and departing aircraft.
  - Installed preconditioned air and ground power units at all gates. This helps limit the use of auxiliary power units (APUs) while an aircraft is at the gate.
  - Construction of an end-around taxiway on Runway 8R which reduces the time arriving aircraft take to reach the gates, thus saving fuel and reducing emissions.
  - Construction has begun on the Consolidated Rental Car Facility which will be served by an automated people mover (APM). The APM will replace shuttle buses to connect passengers between the airport and rental car agencies. The elimination of shuttle buses will reduce emissions and save fuel.

### *Supporting Organizations*

- **The Clean Air Campaign:** [www.cleanaircampaign.com](http://www.cleanaircampaign.com)  
The mission of The Clean Air Campaign is to motivate Georgians to take action to improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion. To accomplish this mission, The Clean Air Campaign offers a variety of voluntary programs and services, including free employer assistance, financial incentives, public information and programs for schools. Each year in Metro Atlanta, the increased use of commute alternatives reduces 42 million car trips and 1,800 tons of pollution.
- **Mothers & Others for Clean Air:** [www.georgiaconservancy.org/News/News\\_Mothers\\_and\\_Others.asp](http://www.georgiaconservancy.org/News/News_Mothers_and_Others.asp)  
Atlanta Public Schools (APS) benefited from a \$3.6 million environmental fund arranged by Georgia-Pacific Corp., the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce emissions from Atlanta's school buses. In conjunction with the national Clean School Bus USA initiative, which aims to curb air pollution and reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust, APS evaluated and upgraded their entire school bus fleet with air pollution control technology. The Georgia Conservancy's Mothers & Others for Clean Air worked closely with EPD and APS to advance the Adopt-A-School Bus retrofit program and the team is working with other school districts in the metropolitan area to model Atlanta's comprehensive approach to eliminating unnecessary emissions.



### Education and Outreach

- **City of Atlanta Urban Watershed Curriculum**

A 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum was developed in partnership with Georgia's Environmental Protection Division Project WET (Water Education for Teachers). It included a series of lessons and activities designed to be used by teachers and other educators to educate students on subjects related to the natural environment, water and wastewater treatment and stormwater issues unique to the urban watershed.

- ◆ Thousands of metro Atlanta students and other youth have been exposed to the Urban Watershed Curriculum through certified educators.
- ◆ Educational activities created for the curriculum were highlighted at the Georgia Association for Water Professionals Annual Conference and the Project WET National Conference.

- **City of Atlanta Greenhouse Program**

Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs initiated a greenhouse program with Atlanta Public Schools for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes in environmental education, plant propagation and horticulture.

- ◆ Successfully worked with more than 28 students.

### ***Supporting Organizations***

- **Earth Share of Georgia:** [www.earthsharega.org](http://www.earthsharega.org)

EarthShare partners with Georgia businesses and employees to support 62 leading environmental groups through workplace campaigns, Earth Day and other activities. As a member of EarthShare, employees of the City of Atlanta may sign up for payroll deductions to help support 62 environmental groups through EarthShare.

- **Keeping It Wild:** [www.keeping.it.wild.org](http://www.keeping.it.wild.org)

Keeping It Wild is a program of The Wilderness Society in fiscal partnership with Georgia Conservancy to partner with African American and other communities of color in learning about, enjoying, and caring for our region's magnificent wildlands. Programs include educational presentations, hikes and other outdoor activities, and opportunities to take action to conserve greenspace and wildlands.

- **Zoo Atlanta:** [www.zooatlanta.org](http://www.zooatlanta.org)

Zoo Atlanta is currently in the top 3 zoos in the world recognized worldwide for Behavioral Research in many areas including conservation and research on the Giant Pandas. Zoo Atlanta's Green Team supports Zoo Atlanta's mission of conservation through sustainable business practices.

- **The Georgia Aquarium:** [www.georgiaaquarium.org/conservation](http://www.georgiaaquarium.org/conservation)

The Georgia Aquarium has many conservation programs including the Rescue Program working to save injured or endangered species. Another environmental initiative is the Coral Bleaching, Recovery and Conservation Project: This long-term monitoring project in Fiji is sponsored by the Henry Foundation and is in collaboration with the Georgia Institute of Technology. The project studies Caribbean coral genetics and live rock cultivation.

- **The Atlanta Botanical Gardens:** <http://www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org/site/conservation/greenhouse>

The Atlanta Botanical Garden's International Conservation plant collections and field work focus on under-represented and internationally endangered plant groups and the restoration of their habitats.

- **Georgia Conservancy:** [www.gaconservancy.org](http://www.gaconservancy.org)

The Georgia Conservancy, headquartered in Atlanta, Ga. is a catalyst for the stewardship of our natural environment through education, principled advocacy, and inclusive decision-making in order to make Georgia a premier environmental state. The Georgia Conservancy provides among many programs, Teacher Workshops for formal and non-formal educators. Training on biodiversity and the importance of wetlands are two of several training programs available.

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